

Office of Trade Relations Trade Modernization Subcommittee Status Report

General description

Objective/Goal of the subcommittee

The primary objective/goal of the subcommittee is to provide advice and recommendations to Customs and Border Protections (CBP) related to the trade modernization efforts of CBP. Advice will be given in the areas of the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE), the Role of the Broker initiative and Centers of Excellence and Expertise.

Where does it fit in our trade transformation strategy?

- *Role of the Broker:* Consistency & Harmonization, Modernization, Co-creation, Bi-directional Education.
- *ACE:* Modernization, Bi-directional Education, Consistency & Harmonization, Co-creation.
- *Centers of Excellence and Expertise:* Consistency & Harmonization, Modernization, Co-creation, Bi-directional Education.

Chair/Co-Chair Names

The COAC Trade Co-Chair is Jim Phillips, General Motors LLC. The government subcommittee Co-Chairs are Cynthia Whittenburg, Executive Director, Trade Policy and Programs, Office of International Trade, CBP, Brenda Smith, Executive Director, ACE Business Office, Office of International Trade, CBP, and Troy Riley, Executive Director, Commercial Targeting & Enforcement, Office of International Trade.

Number of participants from COAC

The Trade Modernization subcommittee is comprised of 11 COAC members.

Meetings

The Trade Modernization subcommittee will have met two time this quarter, on September 16 and 2014. The subcommittee working groups did not meet this quarter. No recommendations are expected to be presented at the October quarterly meeting.

Working groups under this subcommittee

Role of the Broker Working Group (ROTB):

Goal: To provide recommendations for various aspects of Customs and Border Protections efforts to modernize and enhance the Role of the Customs Broker.

Update: The working group was dormant during this quarter.

Background: Since its inception the ROTB working group has developed recommendations regarding how customs brokers should have direct interaction with their importer customers; customs business should be allowed only within the territory of the United States; the importance of finishing ACE; how customs brokers can interact with Centers of Excellence and Expertise; continuing education for customs brokers; how brokers can help insure the bona fide nature of an importer; the enhanced CBP Form 5106 and support for a National Brokers Permit,

Centers of Excellence and Expertise (CEE) Working Group:

Goal: The working group will work on giving recommendations of efficient operating practices and policies based on situational needs as identified by CBP and the trade community. In addition recommendation of metrics and measures based on feedback from the trade community at large may be obtained.

Update: The working group was dormant during this quarter.

ACE Working Group:

Goal: To provide recommendations to the subcommittee regarding the ACE Deployment Strategy and the ACE Stakeholder Strategy.

Update: The working group was dormant during this quarter. During the next quarter the working group will develop recommendations regarding CBP development of ACE functionality for Partner Government Agencies (PGA), PGA data requirements and ACE pilots. In addition the working group will review cargo expediting programs such as the Free and Secure Trade (FAST) program, Line Release, and the Border Release Advanced Screening and Selectivity (BRASS) programs.

Highlights

Accomplishments: The subcommittee was primarily dormant during the past quarter. It plans to deliberate over ACE PGA development and progress during the next quarter.